SUNDAY, MAY 2, 1880.

The regular circulation of THE SUN for the eek ending May 1, 1880, was:

The Republicans in Congress.

The Republicans in Congress have made

two conspicuous blunders recently. Last June, after an angry and protracted controversy, the point in dispute upon the army bill, between the Fraudulent Presisent and the Democratic majority in Congress, was adjusted by a sort of compromise, prohibiting "any portion of the army of the United States to be used as a police force to keep the peace at the polls at any election held within any State."

Certainly that provision is mild enough in itself, and only asserts a principle which has been adopted in a much more positive form in England for over two hundred years. The presence of troops at or near the polis, or their interference in any way with elections, is repugnant to the sentiment of every American citizen.

Yet when this provision was renewed in the present Army bill, the Republicans who had voted for it at the extra session turned around and denounced the proposition as putrageous. Some of them threatened a veto. and others were led to declare that under their construction of the language of the bill the provision to exclude soldiers from the polls could not be executed, or that means would be found to evade it.

The Republican managers used the army to perpetrate the frauds in Louisiana. Florida, and South Carolina in 1876, and afterward to consummate the iniquity at Washington. They intend to use the army again this fall, and Haves will obey any orders the chiefs may give, no matter who may be nominated at Chicago, or what the language of the Army bill may prescribe. The Republicans in Congress have stultified themselves unnecessarily.

The second blunder was in reference to the appointment of special deputy marshals, who have been openly used as electioneer ing agents, at great cost to the public treasury. Hitherto they have been appointed by the marshals, and in the large cities have generally been chosen from the worst portion of the community. The Democrats proposed to divide them politically, to require good moral character as a condition of appointment, and to confer the power of appointment on the United States Courts. The Republicans fought the proposition

flercely and were beaten. In both these cases the fight was renewed in the House after the bills came back amended from the Senate. The Republicans were not satisfied with one defeat in each instance, or with a single exposure of their folly. They were contending for party advantages, and sought to obtain them at any sacrifice. They falled, and by this factious resistance warned their adversaries what may be expected in the electoral contest a few months hence.

A New Discussion of Home Rule.

We referred, not long since, to Mr. JUSTIN MCCARTHY's defence of the Home Rule pro gramme, and pointed out that the fulfilment of his demands would involve a reconstruction of the British Constitution. In the April number of the Nincteenth Century we observe that one of his English opponents makes a similar point, and Mr. McCarthy. for the first time, undertakes to meet the objection. As this is the rock on which the Home Rulers are sure to split, it may be well to note some features of this discussion.

As regards the scope of the law-making power, which Mr. McCartny would have delegated to an Irish Parliament, this may div described as substantially elent to that assigned to our State Legislature. He concedes at once that the making of treaties, and the levying of taxes for purposes of national administration and defence, and, in a word, all the functions exercised by an American Congress, would be long to the imperial assembly at St. Ste phen's. Just where, however, the authority of one party to the federal compact would end, and that of the other would begin would have to be, he admits, defined in a written instrument. Now, what would be the essential nature of such an instrument and with what sanction would it be clothed? That is the decisive, fundamental question at issue, but it is one which Mr. McCarrin shows an inclination to evade. Something as we shall see, he says, but nine-tenths of his clever article is devoted to side issues which can never have any real pertinence or moment so long as this capital inquiry is not squarely answered.

Mr. McCarrny intimates that a simple act of Parliament, such an act as may be pass ed to-day, amended to-morrow, and repealed next week, would be to him a satisfactory groundwork and guarantee of Ireland's legislative independence. He seems to think that the mere passage of such an act would operate like enchantment, transforming Ireland into a realm of plenty and delight, where age-long rancors and antipathies would be forthwith forgotten. and where the most knotty social and eco nomical problems would solve themselves. The Celt would positively love the Saxon, and the Protestant of Ulster would recognize his best friend in the Catholic of the south. Our Home Ruler cheerfully !takes for granted that if one Parliament could be brought to the point of creating an Irisa legislature, all succeeding imperial assemblies might safely be trusted to interpret that creative act in a way entirely acceptable to the Irish people. Indeed, his confidence in the good sense, breadth of view, uprightness, and generosity of Englishmer is only exceeded by his frank recognition of the same admirable qualities in the Irish character. He knows, of course, that Englishmen own a good deal of land and have some capital invested in the neighboring island, and that Parliament would be likely to secure their interests, to some extent at least, in determining the powers of an Irish legislature. The measure would be apt to contain not only a clause limiting the scope of ex post facto interference with contracts, but also a clause abridging the right of remodelling land tenures. Nor is it improbable that Parliament, considering the religious animosities of the past and the numerical weakness of the Protestant element in Ireland, would deem it nec essary, upon delegating a large measure of Its powers, to secure the minority from a possible outbreak of theological prejudice. Mr. McCanthy is well aware that, so long as Englishmen continue to hold property in Ireland, and so long as Protestants and Catholics fight in the streets of Belfast, the matters above mentioned would require explicit provisions in any law enabling Ireland to legislate for herself. But he thinks there would not be the slightest ground for quar-

in the era of good feeling ushered in by the precious been of self-government, no Irish assembly would seek to put an interpreta tion upon a clause of its charter which by any possibility could offend any human being. If it did, the imperial Parliament would acquiesce in its action, preferring peace and harmony above all other earthly considerations. In short, there would be se much common sense and so much good feeling on both sides of the Irish Channel, that the act defining the powers of the Irish legislature would practically construe itself. Of course, the statement of such sanguing

views is a reductio ad absurdum. In the case of the most homogeneous and firmly knit communities, the federal compact ha not escaped severe strain. The united prov-Inces of the Netherlands were welded to gether by a common race, a common speech, and a war of eighty years against a com mon enemy; yet two years after their independence was recognized, the States-General came in sharp collision with the province of Holland, and the cannon of the Stadtholder were trained on Amsterdam. There was a like identity of interest and sentiment among the thirteen American colonies, yet within five years after the adoption of the Constitution, the Federal authority had to be upheld by military force in western Pennsylvania. It is pre posterous to suppose that less friction yould be developed between England and Ireland in the federal relation. On the contrary, it is plain that if ever the specific fields of imperial and local jurisdictions need to be distinctly marked and vigilantly guarded by inviolable guarantees the attitude of the majority of the Irisl people toward England calls for such precautions. A mere act of Parliament whose construction, modification, and repeal would lie within the competence of the imperial assembly, is the last thing that ought to satisfy the Irish people.

It will never satisfy the Home Rulers, if they are clear-headed and patriotic men and we cannot resist the inference that Mr McCarthy is insincere in professing satis faction with such a futile concession. I looks as though he sought to allay present apprehension and shirk the questions raised by an organic act, until the project of Home Rule has been definitely launched in the forum of Parliamentary discussion.

In the end, all such discussion must turn upon one pivot, namely, the wisdom of transforming the British Constitution Nothing but an organic act, that is to say a written instrument of authority superio to a simple act of Parliament, would afford any guarantee for the duration and smoot working of a federal union between Great Britain and Ireland. Such a written Con stitution necessarily involves two corolla ries, entirely inconsistent with the British polity as it exists to-day. It involves as independent tribunal as the supreme ex pounder of the organic document, and an independent executive as the enforcer of its decrees. The administrative head of such a system might, of course, be the Crown reinstated in its old prerogatives, or it might be a President elected by the whole nation; but it could not be what at present it virtually is, an executive committee called a Ministry, and simply representing the ma jority of the House of Commons.

Such is the logical, indispensable, inevitable outcome of the demand for a separate, partially autonomous assembly, or, as we might describe it, State Legislature, in Ireland. The British Parliament, under such scheme, would lose the essential quality of its existing competence; it would cease to be supreme, for there would be a power outside of and above the sphere of its authority. We are not now arguing that a change from a Parliamentary to a Presidential system must needs be fraught with mischief to the United Kingdom; but we affirm that this would be the least objection able method of carrying out a federal union of Great Britain and Ireland. The crown of the Tupons or an elective Chief Magistrate, like the American President, these are the sole alternatives. And sooner or later the Home Rulers will be compelled to curb their discursive rhetoric, and pin themselves down to the legal aspects of their case

The Russian Dissenters.

It appears from the latest despatches that the Czar's Ministers have carried out a plan for some time in contemplation, and have removed the disabilities of the Old Ritualists and other dissenters from the Russian State Church. These non-conform ists constitute a larger and more important body than is generally supposed, and it may be well to point out some features of their religious and social situation.

Among the multitudinous sects and com nunions into which the dissenters from the orthodox Russian Church are broken up, the so-called Old Ritualists and Priestless People are the most considerable in point of numbers and wealth. Both of these bodies have sprung from the great schism of the seventeenth century, caused by the ecclesiastical innevations and reforms introduced at that time by the Government. One of the inno vations regarded with peculiar detestation by conservative Russians was the shaving of the chin, a full beard being accounted an essential condition of salvation. "Whore," asked one of the patriarchs of Moscow, can we expect those who shave their chins to stand at the last day-among the righteous adorned with beards, or with the beardless heretics?" Other changes seem to have consisted merely in the correction of elerical errors which had crept into the liturgical books, but many of the clergy and people refused to accept the rerision and clung to their old missals and their old religious customs. An anathema, formally pronounced by an ecclesiastical council against these non-conformists, had no effect, since, in their eyes, the authorities of the Church were now tainted with heresy. Neither was much gained by persecution, although this was carried on with rigor at certain epochs, no less than 2.700 fanatics, on one occasion, having voluntarily set fire to their own houses and perished in the flames, in order to escape the coercion of the Czar's agents. CATHARINE II., however, abolished the disabilities resting on the adherents of the raskol, as this schiam was called, and since her time the rulers have oscillated between tolerance and oppression. It would seem to be the purpose of the present Czar's counsel-II., extending it, moreover, to other categories of heresy and dissent. We should note here that a rupture long ago took place in the ranks of these schismatics, one party the older form, the other refraining from the sacraments and from many of the ordinary rites, on the ground that there was no longer a real priesthood. The former division, known as Old Ritualists, have remained a compact body, while the latter, called Priestless People, have split into an endless number of independent sects. These may be grouped, however, under two main sections, the one termed Pomortsi, or dwellers by the seashore, who are partially

reconciled with the civil power, whereas the

ant founder, refuse to regard the Csar otherwise than as Anti-CHRIST. The latter theory is cherished with a special fervor by a sect called the Philippists, which still exists, and whose belief that the civil and ecclesiastical authorities are the servants of Satan ought to furnish a good many recruits to Nihilism. A still more fanatical sect is the so-called CHRIST'S People, better known under the nicknames of Wanderers or Fugitives. Of all the non-conformists they are the most hostile to the existing political organization. Not content with condemning every regulation of the civil and ecclesiastical powers, they consider it sinful even to live

ceaceably among an orthodox population. It is plain, from this rapid outline, that there is among the Russian schismatics a gradation of fanaticism from the Wanderers, who profess the Anti-Carist doctrine in its intensest form, up to the Old Ritualists, who differ from all the other sectaries in keeping the old ordinances, and who merely reject the spiritual authority of the dominant Church. As might be expected, the severity of the treatment received on the part of the Government has varied according to the tendency of the doctrines ereached. It may be questioned, however, whether the rigor displayed toward the Wanderers and Philippists has not been misplaced. Instead of dispelling the absurd idea that the Czar is Anti-Christ by a system of even-handed justice, the Governnent has confirmed the notion in the minds of thousands by hunting to death or exile those who had committed no crime, and who desired merely to worship GoD according to their conscience.

According to MACKENZIE WALLACE, OF whose authority these statements are based, the deserters from the established church compose a formidable body. Of Old Ritualists and Priestless People there are, he tells us, no less than seven millions, while the distinctly heretical and fantastical sects comprise some three millions more. They constitute, in other words, about an eighth of the whole population of the empire, including in their ranks the third and wealthiest part of the merchant class, the majority of the Don Cossaeks, and all the Cossaeks of the Ural. The more violent sects, which are capable of active hostility, are weak in numbers, and Mr. WALLACE thinks that the great majority of the Russian schismatics and heretics are loyal subjects of the Czar. But though sectarianism may not be a serious danger, he admits that it has a considerable political significance. It proves that even the unenlightened mass of the Russian people is by no means so docile and pliable as is ommonly supposed, and that it is capable of showing a dogged resistance to authority when it believes great interests are at stake

The Favorite Lines of a Lady Correspondent.

It very frequently happens that people grow to have a great fondness for poetical productions concerning whose authorship they are totally in the dark. Owing so much to the products of the fancy of the unknown writers, they have a laudable desire to find out who they are, and to offer to individuals they can name the incense of their gratitude.

Perhaps they may feel almost as if they were enjoying stolen sweets when they are getting comfort or delight from the words of the poet of whose personality they are ignorant. Moreover, though he fathoms and interprets their deepest emotions, and gives clear and true expression to longings which in them are unutterable, though they feel him to be their most sympathetic friend, they are denied the satisfaction of even knowing his name, or whether he is living or dead, and only their imaginations car picture the manner of man he is.

One of these grateful admirers of anonynous poetry writes to THE SUN, inquiring as to the authorship of certain lines which have long lingered in her memory as priceless gems of sentiment. This is her letter:

"Sta: I have seen in your most valuable paper, Tus Sys, of your lending your assistance to those in trouble, and hope you will please help me. I have heard of sever-al most lovely love songs, but do not know who are heir composers or the names of the songs, but shall give ou a few words of each:

When stars are in the quiet skies, Then most I pine for thee; Bend on me then these tender eyes, As stars lock on the sea.

'And thou, too, on that arb so dear, Still don't thou saze at even, And thus, thouch lost forever here, Thou wilt yet be mine in heaven.'

These are some of the words. I am not sure they ar stright I will now give all the words I know of the ther piece:

'I would offer thee this heart of mine

It I could love thee less.
But hearts so pure, so warm as thine
Should never know distress.
My fortime, 'the too hard for thee,
'Twould cluil my dearest juy;
I would rather weep to see thee free
Than win thee to destroy.

Please answer, if possible, and greatly oblige

We are obliged to confess our inability to name the composer or composers of these lines, though we are inclined to think that they are the product of the same rhyming machine, or at least come from machines run on the same principle. Judged by the highest standards of poetry, they will be found wanting in important respects; but they have the great merit of expressing, though rather clumsily, sentiments held in honor, by nearly all women especiallyfidelity unto death, with the hope, not al ways enduring, of union with the beloved one after death, and the glad sacrifice of self in behalf of the person loved. We have no doubt that it is because of these beautiful sentiments in them that the verses she quotes from memory have grown so dear to Miss HUNTER.

Love and death are the great themes for poetry-affection for the living and lamentations for the dead. They are themes so potent and so sure of awakening responsive emotions, that whoever can get the knack of rhyming is pretty sure of an audience of some kind when he makes them the subject of his verse, no matter how bad it may be. If he can't put poetry into his compositions himself, the emotions of the readers will do it for him; and indeed, with rare exceptions, the poetry must be furnished by the reader, who may be, without knowing it, more really poetical than the writer of the verse

which suggests his poetic fancies. Of the poets of the class to which the unknown author of the lines so dear to Miss HUNTER belongs, the most famous is G. WASHINGTON CHILDS, A. M., the Philadelphia bard. But his fecund fancy loves best to linger about the bier and the tomb. He would deem it almost sacrilege to write the lors to return to the policy of CATHABINE | songs of the enamored, since the weight of all the woes of the bereaved over presses upon his heart. Mr. CHILDS, therefore, cannot be the author of Miss HUNTER's favorite verses, though if he should take to that deretaining all the ceremonial observances in | partment of poetic composition, we have no fears that he would have to ask odds of the actual writer in a lyric competition.

Of our other poets we can now recall none as the author of those lines, though so far as originality and genuine poetic sentiment go they are not far inferior to the average work of some of the men who have set up for poets and succeeded in getting people to believe in their pretensions. Miss HUNTER's favorito lines stand about as much chance of prolonged vitality as theirs.

Being unable to give her the information

substituting a suggestion .which may be profitable to her. It is that instead of hunting for the author of the verses she quotes, she give her attention to the real poetry of which THE SUN offers frequent examples in its several editions, particularly that of Sunday. This poetry is carefully selected, and is remarkably good, on the average-so good that there are not half a dozen of our more pretentious American poets who produce any better when they do their very best, while a large part of what they write is below its level.

The authors of this poetry are generally men and women for whom no great reputation has been made, and they are not known in the literary cliques frequented by the small poets, whose admiration and criticlam, fortunately for them, they have not suffered from. A surprising amount of very tasteful and melodious, and some exceedingly natural and simple poetry, is now written by many cultivated men and women who put in no claims to a great place among poets, and perhaps would never think of parading as bards at all. Take out the work of a few poets of unmistakable right to be so called, and whose number in this country might be counted on the fingers of one hand, and that furnished by these humbler writers ranks with the verse produced by men whose names are kept before the public

as if they lived very high up on Parnassus We advise Miss HUNTER to read the specimens of the best of contemporary poetry we publish; and when she has done so, and found out how much better it is than they she will lose her interest in the authorship of the lines she has quoted for us.

No Longer a Christian.

It must surprise people to hear of a minister's resigning his pastorate and giving up the preaching of the Gospel because he has come to the conclusion that he is not a Christian. But that was the reason the Rev. GEORGE CHAINEY, a Unitarian minister, recently gave for resigning the charge of a church in Evansville. He startled his congregation a week ago last Sunday by ancouncing that he was not a Christian, and that inasmuch as his church declared itself Christian it was plainly his duty to hand in his resignation as its pastor.

Ministers frequently resign for other casons, but the case of the Rev. Mr. Chainey is peculiar. They may get calls to more desirable churches, that pay their pastors better salaries. They may not like the climate of the region in which they are settled, and therefore may gladly seize the opportunity for a change. They may find their congregations growing tired of their style of preaching and disposed to criticise it unfavorably. They may have collected a barrel of sermons, which will be as good as new to a fresh church, and so long as it holds out they can get rid of sermon writing. Their families may not enjoy the soclety of the places where they are. It may not be fine enough to suit their tastes. The elders or deacons and the old maids of the congregation may werry them with doctrinal questions and religious gossip. They may be tired of living in the country, and want to try the city. The novelty of any sort of change may have fascinations for them. They may think that elsewhere their talents will be as highly appreciated by others as they are by themselves. The cost of living in the new place may be less, or the schools for the children better, or the

chances of getting a desirable house greater. There are a thousand and one reasons why ministers resign their parishes, besides one we have not mentioned, and that is the refusal of their congregations to longer endure their preaching. We mean the real reasons. The assigned reason, however, is always, of course, that the finger of Providence points to some other field. They may too, give up preaching because they want to go into some more congenial or profitable business; but a century may pass and not one minister resign because he discovere he is in truth not a Christian.

And yet probably if only those who are Christians after the New Testament model were left in Christian pulpits, the number of pulpits found vacant would be great. It only those remained who have a genuine, undoubting, and vital belief in the doctrines they preach, and who regulate their lives in accordance with them, how many churches would now be hunting for pastors?

Moreover, if all those of their congregations who profess and call themselves Christians were Christians in truth instead of in name only, what a change would come over the face of society! What a revolution would take place in business!

The Rev. Mr. CHAINEY shows that he is an honest man in giving up the charge of a Christian church when he finds he is no longer a Christian. He also shows that h is, what few men are, an honest critic of himself. If everybody tested his religious belief and his religious practice by the Christian standards as they are laid down in the New Testament, and accepted the result with equal candor, perhaps instead of being a remarkable exception the Rev. Mr. CHAINEY would find he was lost to sight in the crowded ranks of the majority.

Guns Dangerous to Friend and Foe.

We have now the particulars concerning the bursting of the 100-ton gun at Spezia last month. This huge rifle, of the largest size yet constructed, was mounted in one of the turrets of the Italian Duillo, the most powerful ironclad in the world. Its fate is important because it teaches us anew the perils which attend the handling of the great modern guns of which so much was expected, and again shows them to be nothing more than experiments in ordnance.

It is only a little over a year since a 38 ton gun on the English Thunderer burst during practice. This gun, which at that time was one of the most powerful in use and had been constructed with infinite pains, was blown into fragments, and every body in its vicinity was either killed or unded, while much damage was done to the turret of the vessel. It was surmised that the gun had been doubly loaded through the carclesaness of those handling it; but as that is an accident not unlikely to happen under the excitement of action, a gun of the same size was last winter tested at Woolwich with a double charge. Like the Thunderer gun, it was blown to pieces.

These experiences with the 38-ton gur cannot fail to throw doubt on all the guns manufactured after the system used in its construction, the one employed at Woolwich. It is a pretty severe strain on the nerves to fire one of these huge rifles in a turret, even if the gunners have confidence in the weapon; but if they feel that every time they discharge it they take their lives in their hands, they can hardly be blamed if they are a good deal demoralized. It is plain that to make these huge rifles of the highest effectiveness in war, it must be demonstrated that they are no longer likely to be as dangerous to those who serve them as to those against whom they are directed.

While the bursting of the 38-ton guns has so lately brought suspicion on the Woolwich system of manufacture, after which a large share of the guns in the British navy Tol in the construction of such an act; that | other, named Theodosians after their peas- | she asks for, we hope she will pardon us for | are constructed, the bursting of the 100-ton | as votes abead of Columbia

gun on the Duillo now raises doubts of the soundness of the ARMSTRONG system, the one on which it was built. Thus, of the small number of systems of heavy gun manufacture with which we are familiar-the Woolwich, the ARMSTRONG, the PALLISER, th WHITWORTH, and the KRUPP-two have been brought under condemnation. And yet, with the difficulties of manufacture vastly increasing with the size of the gun, experimental rifles of \$1 tons have been made after the Woolwich system, and drawings for guns on the same plan to weigh between 160 and 200 tons have been prepared. At the Elswick Works, where the ARMSTRONG guns are made, rifles of 150 tons are to be constructed. Knupp, too, has a design for a

breech-loader of 124 tons. The gun at Spezia burst on the first fire It was loaded with 551 pounds of powder and a shot weighing 2,000 pounds; a charge in tended to be used when the full power of the gun is to be called into play. It was not blown into fragments like the Thunderer's gun but broke into two pieces. The whole of the muzzle, together with the trunnions, remained fixed to the carriage, while the rest of the gun was blown backward against the wall of the turret, doing much damage to the vessel, but destroying no lives.

If these great guns, the fruits of the most consummate engineering skill, and the results of long and careful experiment, are liable to burst into many fragments, or to be blown apart during the comparatively cautious trials in time of peace, what will be their fate and the fate of those who han

dle them amid the haste of war? With their own weapons menacing the lives of the gunners and threatening the ship, and with torpedoes below its armore sides, ready to send the whole craft to the bottom, one of the huge ironclads upon which Europe is lavishing so much money would have reason to hesitate before it attempte the passage of a properly defended channel Only here and there a gun may burst, but one such catastrophe destroys confidence in the whole number.

Mr. Tilden's Strength in Pennsylvania Our advices from Pennsylvania, in the ac curacy of which we have great confidence represent Mr. TILDEN's strength in the del egation from that State as 32 certain, almost

certainly not less than 40, and not improb ably 50 The triumph of Mr. RANDALL in the State Convention was so great as to surprise his

friends in this city, while it greatly gratified Now let us have complete harmony, both in Pennsylvania and in New York, and elect the Democratic candidate, whomsoever the majority may determine to nominate.

Mr. GLADSTONE may be congratulated on naving prevailed on Earl Cowpen, K. G., to ac cept the costly and responsible post of Viceros of Ireland. Lord Cowpen is a very sensible well-educated man, of the highest personal character, and, what is of moment in the case of an Irish Vicercy, of immense wealth. Both he and his wife, a daughter of the Marquis of NORTHAMPTON, are entirely unconnected with Ireland: but if this is to be regretted on some ecounts, it, on the other hand, has its advan tages in the fact of the Viceroy coming to his ffice quite unfettered by local ties or personal prejudices. The Cowpers are one of the nu merous families in the English peerage who owe their rise to a successful lawyer, whose brother was at one time put on his trial for the murder of Miss Stout, a young Quaker lady, a caus celebre which drew upon him the attention of the whole country. This brother, of whose in nocence there is not a shadow of doubt, after ward himself became a Judge, and was grand father of the poet. The present Viceroy inherits the great estates of his grandmother Lady PALMERSTON, and will ultimately inherit of his mother, who owns an enormous mansion-said to contain more bedrooms than any house in England-with a great estate in Bedfordshire. Lord Cowpen is a steady Whig. His sister is married to the Hop. Aubenon Heb BEET, the radical ex-member for Nottingham,

The merry month of May had a stormy beginning. At 1 o'clock yesterday morning a same model as the Eurydice, and therefore wintry wind made the lights in the City Hall had the same defects. Another ship, the Bay of Park dance and flicker, and the newshove watting for the morning papers crowded into corners to keep warm. All through the forenoon close-buttoned overcoats and fur wraps were comfortable. In the afternoon, however, the air grew warmer, the sky cleared, and before sundown it turned out to be not so bad a May day after all.

In the country the sun, whose rays in the city served only to make the discomforts of moving nore glaringly visible, shone brightly and, in sheltered spots, even warmly. Its beams made heir way through the treetops and lighted up the delicate little green leaves just opening from the buds. They sought out and nourished certain hardy May flowers growing at the foot of the trees and pushing their way up through last year's dead leaves. But it was hardly the day to go a-Maying, and the May Queen who endured the ordeal of a coronation yesterday and is not to-day the victim of a tyrannical influenza must be a very hardy young woman.

There are those who think that whenever the sun is unusually perturbed the earth feels the effects of the disturbance, in the shape of great storms and magnetic agitation. Scientific observations seem to give color to this opinion. Yet it may be merely a coincidence that during the last week, in which disastrous storms have carried terror and death into flourishing Western towns, the sun has given ovidences of more powerful physical commotion than has been observed for several years past. The remarkable row of spots now visible in the sun's northern hemisphere show the working of forces whose power and swiftness are almost inconceivable. On Wednesday the spots were aggregated into four groups nearly equi-distant. On Friday one of these groups had split, into two, and the parts had become separated by a distance of probably 25,000 miles. Yesterday there were six groups in the row, and far off to the southwest another large group, of which there had been no indication on the day before, made its appearance. Hourly changes of form and position were visible in the smaller spots surrounding the chief members of the groups.

One of the marked features of the zo ological garden of Philadelphia is its being open all days alike. It has been found from the first that Sunday's visitors outnumbered, on an average, those of any other two days in the week. The annual report, just published shows that during the year ending the 1st of March the receipts on the Sundays were \$16,784. while those of all the other six days put together including the holidays, were \$24,445. The animal garden, in Fairmount Park, though managed by a private corporation, is practically, also, a public institution, under the control of the Park Commission. Its experience iliustrates why it is that the cry for the opening on Sundays of public galleries, museums, and gar-

Mr. Alfred Arnold, formerly of Tenaffy, N. J. ed on the 22d of April, at St Augustine, Pla. aged bout 70 years. He was a native of Rhedo Island. Mr. Arnold had read and reflected much on matters relating to science and the mechanic arts, and he was accustomed to write a good deal on those subjects for the ewspapers. He was tamiliar with patent law, and was the inventor of several convenient articles for use in the conschold, as well as of some valuable improvements in achinery for manufacturing purposes.

To-morrow the Hahnemann Hospital Fair, so Sixth avenue. The voting on the college shell will continue, the books remaining open until 10:30 P. M. on Wednesday. Thus far 167 votes have been cast, and Yale WHAT IS GOING ON IN EUROPE.

In spite of her personal preference for Lords Granville and Hartington, and probably by their advice, Queen Victoria has appointed Mr. Gladstone her Prime Minister. Their lordships were successively called upon to assumthe reins of government, but wisely declined the responsibilty. Their reasons for doing so were sound. To Mr. Gladstone the Liberal victory is due, and to the victor belong the spoils Moreover, according to good authorities, the size of the Liberal majority and the unruly constituents of which it is partially composed will make it one of the most difficult majorities to handle that England has ever seen. Neither Lord Hartington nor Lord Granville would have had the slightest chance of success in ar attempt at controlling such spirits as Bradlaugh and the other members of the same stamp. There is another and stronger reason why

Mr. Gladstone should shoulder the responsibil ities of government. As a free lance he has shown himself a sublimated Don Quixote, tilting at windmills and making himself generally disagreeable. With the cares of office on his head, he has heretofore displayed a moderation and self-control of which he would hardly be believed capable by those acquainted only with his erratic course when in opposition The great objection to Lord Granville as Prime Minister is his being a member of the House of Lords. In that exalted sphere it is impossible to properly feel the pulse of the na tion. No amount of reading blue books and reports can equal the experience gained by actual contact with the questions of the hour The mere fact of leading in the debates will be in itself no slight advantage to a man endowed with Mr. Gladstone's magnetic eloquence. This fact will make itself apparent should any serious difference of opinion arise between the two legislative Chambers. In that emergency spolicy of conciliation on the mutual give-andtake principal is the only way out of the difficulty, and it is the duty of the Prime Minister to smooth the way to compromise by softening the aggressive demands of the turbulent Com nons. This cannot be done by a member of the aristogratic chamber.

A curious difficulty will arise when the new Parliament begins legislation. There will not be seats enough on the Government side of the House to accommodate the Liberal representatives; while on the Opposition side the benches will be half empty. "What will he do with it?"
will be a question of some difficulty for Mr. Gladstone with respect to his literally too numerous following. Even in majorities one may have too much of a good thing.

The Queen has appointed Sir Stafford Northote and Lord John Manners Grand Crosses of the Order of the Bath. The motives of this are not clear. The empty honor is usually reserved for men who have served their country in some remarkable way, either in war or diplomacy Sir Stafford has scarcely shown himself a successful Chancellor of the Exchequer, and as Postmaster-General Lord John has been far below mediocrity. Perhaps the Queen merely intended to show her sympathy in this way with the defeated Conservatives.

The anxiety over the fate of the training ship Atalanta, from which no news has been received since she left Bermuda on the 31st of last January, is intense in England. It is an ominous fact that the Atalanta is a sister ship to the Eurydice, which was capsized off the Isle of Wight a short time ago in weather which was by no means unusually stormy. On that occasion every life was lost, and it seems but too probable that this will turn out to be the case now. The missing ship is, or was, a sailing frigate used as a training ship for young seamen. Her captain and officers were chosen es pecially for their ability as practical seamen, and the crew, though composed chiefly of young sailors, had a high reputation for efficiency. The list of officers comprised Capt. Francis Sterling; Lieuts. F. A. Blackett, A. Dove, P. E. Fisher; Navigating Lieut, W. H. Stephens; the Chaplain, the Rev. R. Nimmo, M. A.; Surgeone E. L. Moss, M. D., and L. W. Corco ran, B. A., M. D.; and Sub-Lieut, Charrington. The upsetting of the Captain in the Bay of Bis cay was not so much to be wondered at that vessel being a heavily plated manof-war, and of a comparatively new style, but that two of the " wooden walls of old England such as the Eurydice and the Atalanta should e lost, argues badly for the efficiency of the modern British navy. Of course, the Atalanta may have been dismasted and driven out of her course by the late storms in the Atlantic and may yet come into port : but she was built on the Biscay, which, when last heard of, on the 7th of February, was in the same latitude and longitude as the Atalanta is supposed to have been in on that date, is also missing. She was of 1,544 tons register, and classed A 1 at Lloyds. The cable reported, the other day, that the

Chinese were making large preparations for war, and that Chinese robbers had appeared a Vladivostock, on the frontier of Siberia, and attacked the Russian inhabitants. Subsequent despatches speak of the excitement in the tea market as one of the best proofs that war is inevitable. But recent information by mail shows that the Chinese arsenals are less active than they have been for years. The soldiery are armed with a weapon which is remarkable only for its ability to get out of order when used, and the drilling of the troops is in the native fashion, which, from the well-known objection to innovation held by the Celestials, is probably the same that prevailed during the last Chines wars, and was then so singularly ineffective. Even when supplied with foreign rifles, the Chinese are ignorant of the use of them, and their Remington breechloaders have repeatedly been put to flight by the primitive bows and arrows of some of their barbarian enemies. Russia is in a very different position. On the frontier of Tartary she has 500 Lowell battery gune, five batteries of Krupp guns, and as enormous quantity of ammunition. It is eignifleant that the news of Chinese aggression com from St. Petersburg. It suggests the fable of the wolf and the lamb.

German newspapers think it probable that in consequence of the virtual close of the Kulturkampf the German Government will ere long accredit an extraordinary ambassador to the Vatican, thus again resuming the long interrupted relations.

The Federal Council is doing penance with a will. It has just adopted a resolution declaring receipts for Post Office orders and remittances liable to a stamp duty, thus reversing the previous vote, which induced Prince Bismarck to tender his resignation.

Prince Bismarck is again confined to his oom by a serious attack of neuralgia. Immediately after the adjournment of the Reichstag the Chancellor will go for a prolonged vacation to his estate in Lunenburg.

Alarmists, both in France and Germany, viewed with dismay the recall of Prince Hohenlohe, the German envoy in France, whose tact, ever since his appointment, has done much to restore and maintain a friendly feeling between the two countries. The newly appointed ambassador, Baron von Radowitz, has had an interview with M. Gan betta, and distinctly assured him that Prince Hohenlohe would return o Paris in August.

The Reichsting baying defeated the Government bill in favor of a subsidy to the South Sea Company, the directors have called a meeting of the shareholders for the 24th inst., in order to wind up the affairs of the company. Prince Bismarck is said to feel very sore at this failure of his first attempt to extend German maritime commerce in those waters.

The opening of the Museum of Decorative Arts in the Paris Palais d'Industrie, though heralded with a grand flourish of trumpets. threatened at one time to prove a failure. In spite of the efforts of its President, the Marquis de Chennevières, and of the bankers, Ephrussi and Dreyfus, the owners of valuable works of art decline to lend them to the museum. The French Government seems to have been responsible in a great measure for the apathy with which the appeals of the committee were met It created some difficulty about the use of the building, and for a long time itself turned a deal ear to the requests for loans of objects of

art. But the difficulties were at last overcome and the ball, once set rolling, proceeded smoothly to the desired goal. Most notable among the valuable and beautiful things exhibited are the tapestries. A number of ladies have lent some of their most exquisite fans. The Museum of Limoges, which recently paid 200,000 francs for M. Gallaud's collection of ceramics, has lent it for a few months.

A curious literary lawsuit has just been decided in Paris. The heirs of Saint Georges and Pianard brought an action against M. Gouned for damages sustained in consequence of that composer's declining to write the music for a piece called "Cinq Mars." of which the two gentlemen named were joint authors. It was proved that Gounod, although he had made everal notes on the borders of the manuscript, was unable to draw inspiration from the work. and declined to write. He subsequently accepted a piece on the same subject from Poirson and Gallet, and wrote the music for it. The

verdict was in favor of the composer.

The death is announced of Michel Moring. a well-known literary man and director of the public charities of Paris, known as the Assistance Publique. This delicate position occa-sionally brought him in conflict with the Municipal Counsel, and it was after a violent scene with one of the Mayors of Paris that an attack of apoplexy carried him off. The Assistance Publique is a very interesting Parisian institution. It assists thirty or forty thousand individuals, and is at the head of all the city in-

stitutions for the benefit of the poor. Another man of letters has also paid the great debt-Duranty, the predecessor of Zola as the apostle of Realism, who sacrificed all the prospects of his youth to follow the career of literature, and died almost penniless. With Assézet and Dr. Thulis he helped to found a journal called Le Réalisme, in 1857. Its avowed purpose was the defence of truth in art and literature. It lived, however, but a few months. Since that time Duranty's existence has been a long and a sad struggle.

The cable also brings news of the death of

Gen. Joseph Vinoy, at the age of 80. He was the oldest of French Generals and Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honor. His services since 1823 have been numerous and brilliant. He distinguished himself during the Franco-German war by leading the rapid retreat of the Thirteenth Army Corps after the battle of Sedan. which saved the whole corps. He also commanded the Army of Reserve at Versailles, which defeated the Commune and retook Paris. In Austria the Emperor has made a popular nomination in the appointment of Sziavy a Minister of Finance. He has been Minister of Commerce, Under Secretary of State in the Home Office, and has held several other official positions. He is a favorite with the Emperor, and his appointment will be welcomed in Hungary. In that kingdom a good deal of suffering has prevailed during the past winter, as is shown by the emigration to America of about

five thousand people. An event has just happened at Pesth which seems more like a ghastly incident in a novel than sober reality. A murderer was hanged and life declared extinct by the medical man in attendance. The body was then experimented upon with an electro-galvanic current, and the result was that the man began to show signs of life, and in a few minutes exhibited his vitality by attacking those around him. It became necessary to pinion him, for the unfortunate wretch had lost his reason, although he had lucid intervals, in which he complained of intense pain. He died on the following morning.

N. L. T. Cheating Justice.

From the New York Tribune

The pardon of Kemble and his three associates, following almost immediately upon their conviction, will be a shock to the flomest sentiment of the community. It would have been better if these men had never been convicted at all, than that we should be led to suspect that their conviction was a farce. The care against them was overwhelming, so that they made no resistance, all pleading guilty: the sentence was marked by a just severity; the prisoners were consigned to the penitentiary. When they have been only four days in confinement the Board of Pardons convenes, their apple cation for elemency is made, the State is left unrepre-sented, and the pardons are at once issued, the attorney-General himself, the law officer of the State, who was detained from the meeting, sending written assurances that he concurred in the action of the Board. It is an inevitable inference that the return of the figitive for sentence and their imprisonment were merely part of a local buriesque, designed to mystify and impress the public; and our Philadelphia despatches show that this inference is sustained by the general understanding of

the case in that city.

A more insolent defiance of public sentiment, under cover of a temporary deference to it, has not been men since Tweed asked the taxpayers of New York what they are going to do about it. Kemble and his associates it crime must have laughed in their sleeves when the law officers, without so much as a wink to disturb their grav-ity, marched them off to Jail. The whole business is dis-graceful. Peaceful and prosperous Pennsylvania must needs blush in the presence of distracted California Dents Kearney has been sent to jail for a year merely fo misking incendiary speeches, and the prospect is that be will stay there.

The people have always one defence, however-the retribution of public opinion. These men may escape the rigors of prison life, but they cannot wipe out the record of their crime nor the universal conviction that they deserved the publishment which they have now been spared. They will always wear the inefficerth

The Canadian Pacific Hallway-Change of From the Bystander

The construction of the road along the north shore of take superior has been abandoned. The rail-way connection with Manutofa, and consequently wish everything beyond, is to be by a road running through American territory. everythins beyond, late be by a read running through American territory.

This is a virtual renunciation of the imperial political, and military character of the whole enterprise. Lake Superior could not be commanded in case of war, it is therefore no more to be relief on as a military character to the relief on as a military character to the relief on a soft of the relief of t

Fred Douglass on Chastine Cox. From the Washington Post

A reporter vesterday evening met Frederick Douglass at Willard's, and showed him the tion in the morning despatches in which the statement was under that he had promised to urge upon flow Cornell in New York a commutation of the ventence of Chastine Vox, and inquired of him as to its truth Mr. Douglass read the item carefully, and then with marked indignation ventled: repiled:
It is difficult to conceive of a statement so entirely
unities as this. I have never been asked, nor have lever
consented, to act in such expectly. I may say further
that it there was ever a cold blooded marder or a man
who richly deserved to be hung. Gox is that man.
"You think the law should take its course?"
"Certainly He has committed a deed which deserved
the fullest penalty of the law, and it should be promptly
executed."

"His color, then, had nothing to do with the matter"
"Not in the least. It does not make any difference
what his color is All lask for the colored min is left
play. Let him alone."
The Spitz.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Thanks for the common sense editorial in Thursday's Sen regard-ing the venomous Spits dog. In the light of all that has ing the venomous Spitz dec. In the light of all that has been published as to the deadly effect of the late of all hards decay in this climate, it is monstrone that the authorities should permit their existence in our critical from the property should be existence of a most horselve that, some or later, is the propert in whom for the backet person, using or old, white may be locetaled as they present to the first principle of the later principle to the later to be obtained under their principles who did not be raised upon a month chark which should have a later principle to the later principle to the later principle to countries to be decayed to the later principle to countries to be a later to the later principle to countries to be a later to the later principle to the later to

A Youthful Marksman's Challenge.

LONDON, May 1 .- Rell's Life says: " John alliam Oakden, 19 years otage, the chamshot of England, to yours any man in the result of the short forty shorts distance who make at a trivel of in diameter, with an equilibrary bully-energy at a six six six by peatro six by the short peatro six by the start of the world. Here L. is fined the staxes and to appoint a release.

Preach Socialists Organizing. Pants, May 1.-The Socialists have formed a

Thirty-five Minutes Ahead

The steamship George W. Ciyde, which are cived yesterday, exchanged signals with the second to City of Washington in lat 26 to 10 to 10 to First, and thirty-five minutes Labor aread to a constant of togs, which started for Havana with the city of Washington on Thursday.